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PROGRAMME PLANNING

Country and intercountry programmes and projects

FIFTH COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR BRAZIL

Note by the Administrator

I. THE PROGRAMMING PROCESS

1. The formulation of the fifth country programme for Brazil began with a review of development objectives, programmes and priorities of the Government, in which priority areas of concentration were identified for the cooperation of UNDP during the fifth programming cycle. This process included the analysis of the programme orientations contained in General Assembly resolution 44/211 of 22 December 1989 and Governing Council decision 90/34 of 23 June 1990.

2. The orientation of the fifth country programme will follow the same principles as were established during the final years of the fourth cycle, after the mid-term review of 1989, with the introduction of the current Constitution and new guidelines provided by the present administration. The areas of concentration for the cooperation of UNDP were identified by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the Brazilian Cooperation Agency, in close consultation with the Planning Secretariat of the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Planning. The final formulation of the fifth country programme, undertaken by the Government, takes account of the recommendations suggested in working meetings with ABC on the basis of the considerations presented in the advisory note submitted by UNDP, the evaluation of the fourth country programme, and the observations of the organizations of the United Nations system.

II. ANALYTICAL COMMENTARY ON THE FIFTH COUNTRY PROGRAMME

3. The fifth country programme for Brazil, for the period 1992-1996, will support the efforts of the Government to consolidate the democratic process of the country, modernize its productive sector and introduce reforms of the State in order to allow the implementation of a sustainable development model, closely integrated into the world community.

4. The strategy of UNDP cooperation consists, in essence, in strengthening the capacity of the Government in critical areas through the development of science and technology and the transfer of knowledge to encourage innovations; the optimization of financial resources allocated to technical cooperation and the promotion of complementary programmes; the design and implementation of projects with national impact; the concentration of resources in crucial areas to avoid the dispersion of efforts; and the support to programmes that encourage the participation of civil society in programmes for sustainable development.

5. The fifth country programme identifies five areas of concentration in which UNDP has significant comparative advantages to provide cooperation and to promote assistance of the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other cooperation. These areas are: education, science and technology; modernization of the productive sector; environment and development; health and social development; and modernization of the State. UNDP cooperation can be summarized as follows:

(a) Education, science and technology. The cooperation of UNDP will support basic education programmes and the improvement of services directed to low-income families, particularly in the north-east; the management and planning capacity of the national educational system; the formulation and implementation of a national programme for street children; training human resources to carry out research and development programmes in science and technology, particularly in relation to advanced technologies;

(b) Modernization of the productive sector. The Government will receive assistance to implement programmes to encourage industrial competitiveness, quality and productivity and technical industrial training. The modernization of the productive sector will be supported with actions to improve the industrial property system; develop entrepreneurial capacities and organizations in the rural and manufacturing sectors; encourage applied agricultural research; stimulate the organization of rural producers; and promote improved levels of sanitary control of food. Management and technical capacities in agriculture will also be supported in order to improve irrigation, research and development, and the organization of cooperatives;

(c) Environment and development. Within an integrated national programme, the cooperation of UNDP will be directed to the conservation and management of natural resources and the environmental heritage; scientific and technological research applied to the rational exploitation of natural resources; incorporation of sustainability into the development process and

environmental education; creation of instruments to support economic and environmental planning and control; pollution control, waste recycling and disposal, sanitation, housing and urban development; strengthening and modernization of environmental management; and the consolidation of the national programme for the environment;

(d) Health and social development. The cooperation of UNDP will strengthen the management, planning and coordinating capacity of health and social welfare programmes at the federal, state and municipal levels with emphasis on the health of women and children. Special efforts will be made to support the control and eradication of communicable diseases, including information and education programmes with a special emphasis on the national programme against the acquired inmunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). UNDP will also support the programme of blood and blood products development; self-sufficiency in immune-biological products, such as vaccines and related products; food quality control and standardization; and the control mechanisms and norms concerning the use of toxic products in productive activities;

(e) Modernization of the State. Important actions are planned to strengthen the capacity of the State to negotiate, coordinate, implement and monitor externally-funded programmes, related to the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Planning and the National Environmental Secretariat. The capacity of the Brazilian Cooperation Agency to coordinate, implement and monitor programmes and projects will be supported, a new information system will be introduced and a project administration unit within the Brazilian Cooperation Agency will be consolidated. The fifth country programme also includes provisions to assist with the preparation of studies by the Government, Congress, universities and the private sector for the formulation of public policies, support of TCDC activities, and the preparation of studies and management of programmes to guide the productive sector towards strategic foreign markets, including those related to the effective integration of Brazil in the Southern Cone Common Market (MERCOSUL). Activities initiated during the fourth cycle in the areas of civil aviation and telecommunications will be continued during the fifth country programme.

6. The Administrator is pleased to note the efforts of the Brazilian Government to contribute substantial resources for the implementation of the fifth country programme, which will involve programmes and projects for an equivalent amount of $251.79 million, of which $14.18 million will be provided from IPF resources and $237.61 million as cost-sharing resources provided by the Government.

III. MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAMME

7. The coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the fifth country programme will be the principal responsibility of the Government, for which a continuous monitoring and evaluation process will be adopted and supported by UNDP in order to maintain the relevance of the fifth country programme in relation to the development objectives and programmes of the Government.

8. The fifth country programme will endeavour to consolidate the modality of national execution. The responsibilities related to the administrative and financial management of projects implemented by national institutions will be progressively transferred to a project administration unit that is being created within the Brazilian Cooperation Agency. The specialized agencies of the United Nations system will provide important technical inputs and new monitoring mechanisms to improve the quality of programmes and projects. The use of United Nations Volunteers will be enhanced throughout the fifth cycle. The involvement of NGOs will be supported during the fifth country programme through the identification of actions likely to be effectively implemented by NGOs in large-scale government projects; and the active involvement of NGOs in projects, aiming at developing innovative mechanisms for the participation of civil society.

9. The Brazilian Government will have, in 1992, an integrated information system for all technical cooperation received and provided that will support the monitoring and evaluation of the fifth country programme, allow a more efficient monitoring of the negotiation process and execution of projects, the delivery of outputs, and the evaluation of impact. Furthermore, the auditing exercise of nationally-executed projects, that began during the fourth cycle, will be continued and used as an input for monitoring and evaluation. The introduction of the new support costs agreement in 1992 will facilitate the performance of technical evaluations by the specialized agencies of the United Nations system as a complement to the annual management and financial auditing, whenever deemed necessary.

IV. RECOMMENDATION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

10. The fifth country programme for Brazil is the result of a consensus and coordination between the Government, the organizations of the United Nations system and UNDP. The Administrator is pleased to note that the fifth country programme for Brazil addresses the current development needs of the country, and the fact that the Government is contributing substantial resources to the programme. It is also noted that the monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, which will be implemented for each concentration area and complemented with thematic evaluations, will be carried out annually with the cooperation of UNDP and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system.

11. For these reasons, the Administrator is pleased to endorse the fifth country programme for Brazil, and recommends its approval by the Governing Council.